



MONDAY EVENING DEC. 31, 1894.

THE GAZETTE will enter its ninety-sixth year to-morrow, but, as chippier as a youngster, it will bid its numerous readers, at home and abroad, a Happy New Year. Ninety-six is a pretty good old age, but, like its State, the GAZETTE "never tires." In its time, not only news papers but generations, and even nations have been born and died, but, like the brook, it goes on, and, what's more, keeps up with the procession.

"Whole ages have fled, and their works decayed. And nations scattered been. But the stout old (GAZETTE) shall never fade From its hale and hearty green." From its birth, its chief object has been to "show the very age and body of the times," and it will continue to do so, and to

"Eye nature's walks, shoot folly as it flies, And catch the manners living as they rise."

THE OLD year will bid us an eternal good-bye to-night; the new, will bid us good morning to-morrow. Let the dead bury the dead. The King is dead; long live the King! Regrets are really no vainer than hopes, but as they make those who have to listen to them, as well as those who express them, miserable, they should give place to hopes, which cheer the possessor as well as his friends, for, "laugh and the world laughs with you; cry, and you cry alone." Therefore, let the bad of the old year be forgotten, and let the good of the new one be at least expected, even though it may not come. The old year taught lessons which the wise will profit by in the new, and while despondency never helped any body, cheerfulness has benefited untold millions. The writer of this paragraph first learned the true philosophy of life on a sleety morning during the war, when he heard his negro servant, who was moving about outside his tent, trying to kindle a fire with wet wood, lustily singing:

"Let the world war as it will, I'll be gay and happy still."

THE CHRISTMAS holidays being practically over in this State, for New Year's day never was generally observed here, and is less so now than ever, the lavish expenses prescriptively incident to the festive season should cease, and economy be the order of the day, so that there may be something to spend next Christmas. If, as is said, an American throws away what would support a foreigner, a Virginian wastes what a man from some of the other States could live upon. This could be well afforded in the good old Virginia times, but, unfortunately, it is not so now, and that a willful waste makes a woeful want is as true here now as it is anywhere else. Hospitality is a most commendable quality, but a wise man doesn't straiten himself to display it, for he is familiar with human nature, and therefore, Byron's lines, which he read when a boy, are indelibly impressed upon his memory:

"He gathered revelers from far and near, He knew these flatterers of the festive hour, The heartless parasites of present cheer."

MR. DEBS after inflicting untold losses and suffering upon the people of the country, now calls upon them for contributions to-day in aid of the "Lewex Committee." He is trying to enable him to pay his lawyers, and to prevent the execution of the mild sentence of the court before which he was tried for conspiracy, and for advising his poor, ignorant followers to use the "round end of coupling pins," and to "save their money and buy guns." No matter how deficient in other qualities Mr. Debs may be, that he is not lacking in gall is plain to be seen.

The famous Lexow committee, the committee of the New York legislature that was appointed, nominally, to investigate the crookedness of the municipal government of New York city, but, really, to help the republican, and injure the democratic party, has closed its sessions. It need not be forgotten that of the men it convicted, nearly all are republicans, and that the police board, by whom they were appointed, is composed of an equal number of republicans and democrats.

VIRGINIA NEWS.

The new Virginia Court of Appeals will meet in Richmond on Wednesday.

Augustus C. Paul, postmaster at the National Soldiers' Home, was arrested on Saturday by post-office inspectors for embezzling money order funds.

Monumental Episcopal Church, Richmond, celebrated its eightieth anniversary yesterday. Rev. Dr. Moses D. Hoge, of the Presbyterian Church, delivered an interesting historical address.

To-day is the last day upon which Old Virginia securities can be funded into centuries. On Saturday there were deposited for funding with the second annual \$182,000 of old tax receivable coupon bonds, and about \$200,000 of tax receivable coupons. This leaves outstanding only about \$500,000 of bonds and \$550,000 of coupons. It is thought that about half the outstanding coupons have been lost or destroyed.

Jay Dinwiddie, a prominent farmer of Hounsfield, 8 miles from Watertown, N. Y., was burned to death in his barn last evening and with him several head of cattle. He was engaged in extinguishing the fire at the time.

FROM WASHINGTON.

[Correspondence of the Alexandria Gazette.]

WASHINGTON, Dec. 31.

Judge McComas to-day overruled the demurrers filed by the attorneys of Captain Howgate to the three indictments returned by the grand jury. Captain Howgate was then arraigned and pleaded not guilty, but appended a further plea that the indictments were not found within three years after the alleged offenses therein charged were committed. The question as to whether the indictments were barred by the statute of limitations was thereupon argued.

Congressman Springer says a caucus of the democratic members of the House will be held on Saturday. Congressman Culberson says it will be held on Thursday, to determine what shall be done with the proposed new banking bill. One of the democratic managers of the House told the GAZETTE's correspondent this morning that no body expected the Senate would pass the bill, but that if the provision in it for taxing State banks be retained, he thought it would pass the House.

The President to-day approved the act for the relief of Mrs. Dollie E. Vedder of Fairfax county, Virginia, widow of the late Captain Simon C. Vedder, U. S. A.

The auction sale of the property of Richmond and Danville Railroad at the south end of the Long Bridge, advertised in the GAZETTE, took place on the premises to-day, and was conducted by Ryan, of the law department of the Southern Railway Company, of which the Richmond and Danville is a part. As there was no other bidder for the property but the Southern Company, it was knocked down to that company for a nominal sum. Indeed the sale was but a transfer from the lesser to the greater part of the same system.

Boyle, the jockey who was hurt at the Jackson City race track last Saturday, is lying at the Emergency Hospital here in a critical condition. The horse that was hurt the same time has been killed and reburied and the broken bones re-set. Reasonable men who are racing in winter, provided the weather be good, but racing on ice is so dangerous as to be criminal, and should be prohibited.

The Marine band will not supply the music for the grand ball to be given by Mrs. Senator Brice. It did last year, but its members there were not invited from labor to refreshment, and as upon inquiry it was learned that they were not to be entertained, as well as paid a high price for their service this year also, the arrangements for engaging the band were broken off summarily.

Among the women clerks in the Census Bureau discharged last Saturday were several from Virginia.

As to-morrow will be observed here as a general holiday, all the departments were closed at noon to-day, so as to give the employees half a day extra, in order to get ready for it!

NEWS OF THE DAY.

Slight earthquake shocks were felt Saturday in the province of Reggio di Calabria, Italy. The inhabitants are in a panic condition.

By the wreck of the British bark Osseo at Holyhead, early yesterday morning, during a terrific gale, 26 men, her entire crew, were lost.

Severe weather has prevailed throughout Great Britain since Saturday last, and there have been shipwrecks and great loss of life.

A dispatch from Peking says that Lin-Kun-yi, viceroy to Liang-Kiang, has been appointed to the chief command of all the Chinese forces, ousting Li Hung Chang.

The famous Delavan House at Albany, N. Y., was destroyed by fire last night. Mrs. H. A. Fookes was fatally injured by jumping from the balcony, and several other persons were hurt.

The executive committee of Tammany Hall had a meeting in New York on Saturday, and resolved to defer re-organizing until after the redistricting of the city. Neither Mr. Croker nor Mr. Croker was present.

Reports from the orange districts of Florida indicate that nearly two million of the estimated five million un-picked oranges were frozen on the trees and 300,000 boxes frozen in boxes while awaiting shipment.

The Norwegian steamship Yumuri, at New Orleans, from Santa Maria, reports that fearful rains have fallen on the coast of Colombia. The village of Gaira, five miles south of Santa Maria, was washed away by heavy floods, and about fifty persons were drowned. In Santa Maria between forty and fifty houses were destroyed by the flood.

The Catholic church authorities are considering the best means of enforcing the anti-secret society decree. Monsignor Satolli has transmitted the decision to the heads of all dioceses throughout the country, and it remains for them to convey it to parish priests, and for the latter to give practical application and execution, each having considerable latitude as to how he shall act.

There were one hundred and twenty-five dismissals from the Census Office in Washington Saturday evening, among the number several Virginians. Unless Congress determines to establish a permanent census bureau the balance of the force will be dismissed at the conclusion of the work, as it is understood that the President has refused to extend to the clerks employed the protection of the classified service.

FROM WASHINGTON.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 31.

RAN NAKED THROUGH THE SNOW.—The house of William Thompson, a farmer living twenty-five miles north of Regina, N. W. T., took fire early Friday morning, while the family were asleep. Thompson awoke and jumped for the door, but before his wife could reach the door, with one of the children, she fell down, suffocated by the heat and smoke, with her night dress on fire. Thompson dragged her out and tore off her burning night dress and rushed back into the building for his two children. The youngest was burned to death, and the eldest is in a very dangerous condition. The mother is badly burned about the body. Thompson, who was perfectly nude, with the thermometer registering nearly forty degrees below zero, hastily put the sufferers in the hen house and started to run over to a neighbor's, one and a quarter miles away, without a stitch of clothing on. After running some distance he was perfectly nude, with the thermometer registering nearly forty degrees below zero, he could find no cloth with which to cover himself, and he was found by the neighbors in that state.

Suddenly, at nine o'clock this morning, Mrs. ELIZABETH B. CORSE, wife of General Montgomery D. Corse, funeral notice later. No flowers. [New York papers please copy.]

DIED.

At nine o'clock this morning, Mrs. ELIZABETH B. CORSE, wife of General Montgomery D. Corse, funeral notice later. No flowers. [New York papers please copy.]

ALEXANDRIA IN 1894.

Another year of Alexandria's history has rolled around and again is the GAZETTE called upon to give another twelve month's resume of the city's business to its many readers who for so long a time have learned to consult its columns for everything in which they are interested.

The year 1894, in a business sense, will be remembered throughout the country as a dull one, generally speaking, and it is stated that, the country over, more men were out of employment than ever before. Of course, when a whole country suffers from depression each city thereof must expect to feel the effects, but, as everything is by comparison, Alexandrians may feel thankful that this sturdy old city stood the depression manfully, and was as little hurt by the hard times as any place in the country. And why not? Alexandrians are courageous, help each other and respond as promptly and as liberally to a call for assistance as any other people on the green earth. May God continue to bless and prosper old Belle Haven.

The growth of Alexandria keeps steadily on and the limits of the city are being rapidly extended. Then too, numerous small towns are growing up immediately surrounding the city and these add to the business and prosperity of the community of which they really form a part. Of these places are New Alexandria, North West Alexandria, Del Rio, the St. Asaph Driving Park and St. Elmo, which are now connected with the city by the electric railway and all make Alexandria their supply market. West End, which, too, is a suburb of Alexandria, is also rapidly growing, more houses having been erected there during the past two years than in any ten years previous in its history. It is believed by many that in a short time some, at least, of these places will become incorporated in Alexandria, whose size and population would thus be largely augmented.

The population of Alexandria is steadily increasing and each year more people who do business in Washington make this city their place of residence, where the cost of living is so much less. When it comes better known in Washington that one can have here a comfortable home, with ample breathing space and lots of room, for a few hundred dollars as against the thousands of dollars in that city, and this, too, with the quickest and best passenger facilities, there will be great activity in properties in and near this city. The advantages of this city as a place of residence have before been set forth in similar articles. Among them are good schools, low rents, pure water, healthy location, an excellent market, etc., with rapid and comfortable communication with Washington and all other points.

Again have the reporters of the GAZETTE obtained from Alexandria's business men their views as to the trade of the city during the past twelve months, as compared with that of the previous year. From conversations with many merchants in various branches of trade it is learned that in many of these branches more business was done in this city during 1894 than in any previous year, or, to use the language of a prominent merchant, more merchandise was shipped to and from Alexandria this year than during any year of the city's history. It is true that values have been lower and margins smaller, but the bulk of business has increased so that there has been no falling off in the amount of capital invested, but rather an increase. The merchants of Alexandria, as a rule, do business quietly and without ostentation, so until the GAZETTE gives its annual review of the city's trade, even comparatively few of the citizens know what an extensive business is conducted in their midst.

There are a number of very large and handsome business establishments here, all of which have very extensive trade, their territory extending for miles and miles around, and their establishments would reflect credit on cities of treble the size of Alexandria. Just here it may be stated that several firms have been instrumental in extending the trade of Alexandria, bringing the city into more commerce and importance, and if others would follow their example, the city would show a more rapid growth.

The banks have done good business and have earned the usual dividends. Although operating on a moderate capital the Alexandria banks are known for their stability, and hold a high position in business circles throughout this section. They have always pursued a conservative and liberal course toward their customers and the community, and in various ways have assisted the business prosperity of the city.

The grocery and provision trade has far exceeded that of any previous year as to bulk, though prices have been lower and margins smaller. It is difficult to ascertain the amount in money of this trade for the year, but it is estimated at nearly \$4,000,000. It is generally admitted now that there is no better grocery and provision market in this country than Alexandria. The wholesale merchants make big purchases, buy as cheaply as any others, and carry large stocks, while the comparatively low rents here and the excellent facilities for handling and shipping goods enable them to sell at such small profits as to attract trade from all directions. The retail grocery trade has increased and the merchants carry a much larger and more varied stock of fine groceries than ever before.

The wholesale drug business, with its branches in oils, paints, etc., has kept pace with the city's commercial growth, and now Alexandria is the base of supplies for this trade for all this section of country. Enterprising men are at the head of this business, and are pushing it daily. The retail druggists have done a fair business during the year, and the number of stores in the city has increased.

The cracker, cake, bread and candy manufacturers report an increased and increasing business. There are extensive establishments for making these articles in this city, and they are fitted with the most modern improvements and conveniences.

The glass, china and crockery trade has increased and the sales extend over a large territory. The establishments conducting this business carry large and varied stocks and some of the stores are very handsome.

The amount of lumber sold by the several firms in this city during the year is estimated at 17,000,000 feet—about 2,000,000 feet more than last year. This lumber was used not only in the construction of buildings in this city but in the country for miles around, purchasers being attracted to this market. The mills attached to the

lumber yards, too, have been busy and have kept fully as many hands employed as last year.

The grain and flour trade does not improve in proportion to some other branches, but this is easily accounted for. In the past few years country mills have been built in many counties in this section of the State and these from the grain grown thereabout supply their respective neighborhoods with flour and keep that trade at home.

Of course during a period when depression is widespread the real estate business is among the first to feel the effects. During "hard times" but few people can afford to buy houses, or ground and few want to sell at a time when prices must necessarily be low. Nevertheless the real estate dealers in this city have done a moderate business and feel encouraged at the prospects for the future. Prices have held firm and the general belief is that real estate in Alexandria and vicinity will steadily increase in value with each succeeding year.

The Portner Brewing Company reports no falling off in their business, and the public know that there has been no falling off in the quality of the beer made there. The brewery is a model establishment and is so recognized by the leading brewers of the country. Notwithstanding this, the plant is being constantly enlarged and its capacity increased, until now it amounts to nearly 200,000 barrels a year. The latest improvements and contrivances for brewing are to be seen at the brewery and every member of the company is an active business man. The business of this brewery is an important factor in the trade of the city.

The several fertilizer manufacturers have not only increased their output but are constantly increasing the size of their plants and putting in new machinery and improvements to keep up with the times. The excellence and purity of the Alexandria fertilizers have before been mentioned, and the high standard they have reached is being maintained by the manufacturers.

The tannery has done a good business during the year and has kept a large number of hands employed. The Alexandria-made leather meets with a ready sale in the largest markets of the country and its reputation for superiority has long been established.

The soapstone works, a comparative new industry, have done well and the various articles made there are shipped to all parts of the country.

The foundries have done fairly well though in some of them a smaller force of men has been employed.

The business at the ship yard shows an increase over that of last year; a larger number of vessels having been repaired there than for some years past.

The hard times which the farmers have experienced have not affected the trade in agricultural implements, seeds, etc., as much as might have been expected, and the merchants engaged in this trade report a fair amount of business for the year.

The fruit trade of the city has increased wonderfully during the past two or three years and it is safe to say that more fruit is sold in Alexandria in a week now than was sold in twelve months a few years since. Here can be found not only domestic, but fruit of every clime sold at prices within the reach of all.

The confectionery trade has also increased and the stores are now carrying much larger and more varied stocks than formerly.

The cigar trade has increased and the Alexandria-made cigars continue to hold a high place in the public favor.

The ice trade increases yearly and the shipments of ice to and from this city have consequently increased. The ice factory last year did a good business.

The dry goods and notion trade has increased and the merchants engaged in this business have shown commendable enterprise during the year. They have carried larger and more varied stocks, and this has not only kept many people from going from the city to make purchases, but has also attracted a larger country trade.

Alexandria's trade in sugars, syrups, and molasses, for a few years since, was considerably phenomenal, continues to increase, and the low figures at which these articles are sold here bring many purchasers from a distance to this city. This is also true of the oil trade, which a few years since was insignificant, but which is now one of the city's important branches of business.

The sales of coal continue to increase and many dealers from a distance get their supplies from the Alexandria merchants. A large business in salt and plaster is also done here.

The furniture dealers have done a fair business during the year and carry large and handsome stocks.

The commissioner merchants report that there has been no actual falling off in that business, though the method of conducting this business has greatly changed.

The hardware and building material trade has also been fair.

The brick yards in the vicinity, while not having done as large a business as during some previous years, the general depression in business having had the effect of restricting building operations, have done fairly well.

The clothing, hat and shoe dealers report a fair business, considering the "dullness of times."

The jewelers, who it would be supposed, would be most affected by dull times, have managed to do quite good business. The jewelry stores of the city are quite handsome and are kept stocked with the prettiest and latest novelties.

The liquor trade, both wholesale and retail, has been fair, the dealers in this city supplying quite a large territory with fine wines and liquors.

Next to reading it in the GAZETTE the easiest way to ascertain the growth of business of the city is to visit the railroad depots and wharves. At the depots every day whole train loads of merchandise of every conceivable description arrive here, while other trains are made up and sent off filled with goods shipped by Alexandria merchants.

The various steamboat lines, too, bring to and carry from this city a large number of passengers and very heavy freights, and the business of both the railroads and steamers is increasing annually. This is conclusive proof of the city's business growth.

Alexandria's railroad and steamboat facilities have frequently been referred to in the GAZETTE. Situated on a large island with deep water, vessels of the largest size can reach her wharves, and regular lines of fast and handsome steamers now run to and from this port and connect the city with Norfolk, Philadelphia, New York, Baltimore, Boston, Providence, etc., while several fine steamers run regularly between here and the bay, bringing the

products of the country on both sides of the river to this market and carrying back the goods of the merchants and the manufacturers. The railroad facilities are unequalled and lines extending in every direction center here. These are the Virginia Midland, the Washington Southern, the Chesapeake and Ohio, the Manassas, and the Baltimore and Ohio, which, with their connections, bring Alexandria into direct communication with every section of the country. The importance of Alexandria from a railroad standpoint was recently shown by the purchase by the Baltimore and Ohio Company of a desirable piece of property directly on the water front, and on which it is proposed at an early date to erect a depot and freight buildings.

With such facts, and many others which could be cited, it will be seen that Alexandria will enter upon the new year with much to encourage, and with the prospect of a beginning at least of the rise of its commercial importance, which has been so long looked for.

BUILDING IN ALEXANDRIA.

Though there has been a slight retarding of building in Alexandria during the closing year, in consequence of the uncertainty which has prevailed throughout the country during the past eighteen months, we have but little to report of in that line. Seventy-nine new houses have been added to the city during the year, costing \$100,000, and about \$25,000 spent in repairing houses which had been previously erected. But the most noticeable feature is the growth just outside the city's limits where houses enough to form small towns have sprung up during the year.

The tracts of ground to the northwest of the city are becoming thickly dotted with houses and the building of as many more is contemplated at the opening of spring. The electric railway, which has had several miles of its Washington extension built, now passes through thickly settled sections after leaving this city, and along its entire line from the corporation limits houses will be built and we have but little to report of in that line before the close of the coming year. The growth of Alexandria, as has been stated before, is gradual and healthy, and there is not a street nor a section of her suburbs in which improvements are not under way. In a walk through the city, and especially along the outskirts, the truth will strike any observer. The city is expanding, of course, more to the north, and as has long been foreseen, the time will come when Alexandria proper will be stretched to four-mile run. Water mains and electric lights have already been extended almost to that point, while the electric railway cars run within a short distance of it.

There are now 2,490 taking of water in the city, an increase of 88 during the year. The main of the Corporation Company has been extended on eight squares within the city limits during the year as follows viz: South Fairfax street from Wilkes to Franklin, Prince street from West to Peyton, Peyton street from Prince to Cameron, Henry street from King to Queen, St. Asaph street from Gibbon to Franklin, Cameron street from Payne to West. In addition to the above the pipe line of the Suburban Water Company was laid from the corner of Princess and Payne streets to the corner of Oronoco and Henry streets, the Cameron water conveyed about one mile into Alexandria county. The introduction of this water supply will enhance the value of all property on the line of the pipe. Two parcels have been laid out during the year, one containing 100 acres, and the other 50 acres, both of which are being subdivided into lots.

During the past year the GAZETTE has had no cause to complain. Its circulation has been increased, and its advertising rates, as a rule, have been reduced, while the prospects for a further augmenting of its business are good. In connection with the latest local, telegraphic and general news.

THE LEXOW COMMITTEE.

In New York at 8:50 o'clock Saturday night the Lexow committee adjourned.

Superintendent Thomas Byrnes was the last witness before the committee. At the conclusion of his examination the investigation of the police department was ended.

Just as he was through answering Mr. Goff's questions Superintendent Byrnes handed a letter to Chairman Lexow and said it was a copy of one he had sent to Mayor-elect Strong early this month. It was his resignation from the force, of which he has been a member for the last 32 years.

The Superintendent said that on two occasions since he was appointed in Superintendent Murray's place he had been on the point of resigning, owing to the continual conflict between the commissioners and himself. "I feel acutely," said he, "that the commissioners wanted to get rid of me, and I wanted to retire, but I refrained from a sense of duty to the citizens of New York." The views of the commissioners do not agree with mine," he said. He had waited, hoping that something would turn up, and it turned up last election day. He admitted that the present condition of the police department is bad, and that it is practically impossible to better it under the existing form of organization. He gave instances of alleged interference by the commissioners with his attempts to enforce the laws and said that President Martin had said "what the law is, if he swears (as he did) that the Superintendent invited the commissioner to address the police captains in that notable meeting for instructions on the Sunday preceding the election of 1892. The Superintendent, he said, should have absolute charge of the discipline of the department, but that all his efforts in that direction were frustrated by the commissioners. The department was honeycombed with abuses, which had been growing for 30 years, and they could only be remedied by radical legislation.

Local politicians, he claimed, were the cause of the department, and as long as politics was a factor in the force such a state of things would exist. Although he did his utmost to procure reliable information as to corruption and bribery, he was unable to get it, and the whole department was impregnated with the belief that promotion had to be bought and merit was of no avail. He claimed to have done a good deal toward helping to bring about the exposures.

Mr. Byrnes paid a tribute to Dr. Parkhurst, who, he said, manufactured public sentiment, without which it would have been impossible for the committee to have acquired the information it did.

He declared however that even without the intervention of Dr. Parkhurst and his society or the Lexow committee, he himself would have collected by this time fully three-fifths of the evidence of police corruption that now stands publicly recorded.

Concerning his personal affairs he declared that his wealth amounted to \$350,000, and defied any one to show that he had come by one dollar of it dishonestly.

He mentioned real estate and improvements he owned, which cost him \$292,000, and which, said he, was his wife's name, and said that aside from a viceroyal inheritance of \$120,000, his fortune had been laid by an investment made for him by Commodore Vande-bilt and built to its present proportion by investments made for him by Jay and George Gould, for all of whom he had done favors.

His purchases of real estate were also very profitable and he claimed not to have a bank account.

Mayor-elect Strong declined to say

The whites were males 113, females 120, total whites 233; colored males 97, females 102, total colored 199; increase 16 in whites, decrease 16 in colored. The remains of 33 persons who died in the city were sent elsewhere for interment, and 95 bodies were brought here for burial, of which number 46 died in the District of Columbia.

During the year permits for the erection of 49 frame and 30 brick houses were issued, a total of 79. Frames in the first ward 10, cost \$8,100; 2d ward 3, cost \$1,150; 3d ward 16, cost \$9,550; 4th ward 20, cost \$7,650; bricks in the 1st ward 7, cost \$6,850; 2d ward 3, cost \$3,100; 3d ward 10, cost \$17,300; 4th ward 10, cost \$19,000; total \$171,000, which represents only about two-thirds of the value. The number of permits issued last year was 125, 81 frames and 44 bricks at an estimated cost of \$114,350. The full times show their effect on the building interests, but a large increase in the number of buildings is predicted for next year.

The number of runs and the actual time of service of the fire department during the year, as furnished by Engineer Wood, was: January, 7 runs with 30 minutes' service; February, 5 runs with 35 minutes' service; March, 3 failures; April, 2 runs with 1 hour and 15 minutes' service; May, 1 fire but no service; June, 5 runs with 30 minutes' service; July 5 runs with 1 hour and 40 minutes' service; August, 3 runs with 15 minutes' service; September, 1 run with 15 minutes' service; October, 5 runs with 1 hour and 25 minutes' service; November, 3 runs with 10 minutes' service; December, 4 runs with 15 minutes' service. Total runs 44, actual time of service 9 hours and 55 minutes.

The Clerk of the Gas Works reports that there are now 916 private gas consumers, an increase of 22 over last year. During the year 31 new services were put in buildings and 14 old ones renewed. There have been during the past four years 156 dwellings furnished with gas in 1891, 33 in 1892, 52 in 1893 and 31 in 1894. During the year 957 feet of service pipe and 849 feet of main pipe were laid and 31 meters furnished. During the past four years there have been 5,312 feet of service pipe laid, 144 meters furnished and with 2,500 feet now being laid, the gas works have a total of 11,500 feet of main pipe laid. This constitutes new construction entirely, no renewal work, such as new service, renewal mains or where new meters take the place of old ones being included.

There are now 2,490 taking of water in the city, an increase of 88 during the year. The main of the Corporation Company has been extended on eight squares within the city limits during the year as follows viz: South Fairfax street from Wilkes to Franklin, Prince street from West to Peyton, Peyton street from Prince to Cameron, Henry street from King to Queen, St. Asaph street from Gibbon to Franklin, Cameron street from Payne to West. In addition to the above the pipe line of the Suburban Water Company was laid from the corner of Princess and Payne streets to the corner of Oronoco and Henry streets, the Cameron water conveyed about one mile into Alexandria county. The introduction of this water supply will enhance the value of all property on the line of the pipe. Two parcels have been laid out during the year, one containing 100 acres, and the other 50 acres, both of which are being subdivided into lots.

During the past year the GAZETTE has had no cause to complain. Its circulation has been increased, and its advertising rates, as a rule, have been reduced, while the prospects for a further augmenting of its business are good. In connection with the latest local, telegraphic and general news.

NOTES OF INTEREST.

The business of the city postoffice shows a considerable increase over that of last year. No failures of consequence occurred among our merchants during the year, which is a record for this section of the city.

The number of deeds recorded by the Clerk of the Corporation Court during the year was 623, as against 785 last year.

The dog population is on the decrease this year, but 608 being licensed, as against 762 in 1893. The tax this year was raised from \$1 to \$2.

During the year the police made 1,900 arrests, as against 2,043 last year. The number of lodgers accommodated at the station house was 1,895, as against 1,199 last year.

The total amount of flour inspected during the year was 23,183 barrels, as against 28,171 last year. This does not include all the flour sold here, as much which is received is sold without inspection.

The chain gas expenses this year were, for heat \$1,450, for lighting \$141,35; total \$1,599.85. In 1893 the expenses were \$1,448.70, in 1892 \$1,092 and in 1891 \$614, an increase each year.

The Telephone Exchange manager reports an increase of 10 subscribers, who now number 112. During the past few weeks a part of the line has been repaired and the spring the whole line will be reconstructed.

The approximate sales at the U. S. internal revenue office of beer and cigar stamps for the year were: Beer \$56,000, cigars \$6,200, and the amount collected on whisky and brandy is about \$50,000, about the same figure last year.

The Clerk of the Corporation Court during the year issued 111 marriage licenses, 64 to whites and 47 to colored persons. Last year 124 were issued. Of course this does not include the Alexandrians who went to Washington to be married.

During the year the number of persons sent to jail was 451, of which 136 were white and 315 colored. Of these 10 were sent to the city jail, and 441 to the State Prison. The number of prisoners last year was 385.

The deposits made by Mayor Strauss for licenses collected by him since June 1 last, the beginning of the fiscal year, amount to \$9,273.78. During the same period in 1893 the amount was \$8,750. This also includes the calendar year 1893 was \$3,404.35, this year \$2,805.20.

There are 97 electric lights in the city, 5 more than last year. The cost of operating the works and lighting the city, that is for labor, material, etc., in 1894 was \$3,664.29, in 1893 \$6,750, in 1892 \$5,450. The city receives \$725 for rent of lights at the railroad yards and depots.

During the year the commissioners of the sinking fund destroyed \$111,800 corporation bonds, which represented the purchases of fifteen years—\$15,000 bonds issued 1872 and \$96,800 issued in 1873. The sinking fund corporation 3 per cent. bonds could be purchased